

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 27497 221838Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EURE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 /081 W

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P R 221832Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4490

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27497

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR IS XF

SUBJECT: Giscard Receives Departing Israeli Ambassador

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR BEN NATAN PAID A HALF-HOUR FARE-WELL CALL ON PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING OCTOBER 2L.
AFP DESCRIBED IT AS A "COURTESY" CALL AND SPECULATED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE FRENCH VOTE IN THE GA ON THE UN ZIONISM RESOLUTION WAS DISCUSSED. NOTING THAT IT IS NOT USUAL FOR FRENCH PRESIDENTS TO RECEIVE DEPARTING AMBASSADORS, REUTER QUOTED "SOURCES" WHO SAID GISCARD WANTED TO MEET BEN NATAN TO SHOW HIS "SYMPATHY AND FRIENDSHIP" TO ISRAEL. REUTER ALSO REPORTED THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 27497 221838Z

TICE LECANUET WILL VISIT ISRAEL IN JANUARY AND THAT A

NUMBER OF ISRAELI MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED IN FRANCE NEXT
YEAR.

2. BEN NATAN MADE NO STATEMENT ON LEAVING THE ELYSEE,
BUT THE ISRAELI EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE
SAYING THE PRIVATE MEETING "TOOK PLACE IN A FRIENDLY
ATMOSPHERE." END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

3. THE PRESIDENTIAL GESTURE WAS PROBABLY INTENDED TO
REASSURE ISRAEL AND ITS MANY FRIENDS IN THE LOCAL ELEC-
TORATE THAT FRANCE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ISRAEL'S
RIGHT TO EXISTENCE. IT MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO
COUNTERACT SUBSEQUENT ACTS CONTEMPLATED BY FRANCE WHICH
ISRAEL WOULD CONSIDER UNFRIENDLY, SUCH AS AN UPGRADING
OF THE STATUS OF THE PLO IN FRANCE OR AN AMBIGUOUS
FRENCH POSITION IN THE GA ON THE MATTER OF LABELING
ZIONISM AS RACISM.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, FR, IS, XF, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY), (NATAN, BEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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